

**MDC**  
Household  
**HAZ**



**WASTE**  
Collection

*The Metropolitan District's*  
**2006**

*Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program*

**(860) 278-3809**

*[www.theMDC.com](http://www.theMDC.com)*

Dear Resident:

It's that time of year again. The Metropolitan District is sponsoring a Household Hazardous Waste (HazWaste) Collection in your town for the 13<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. Participating in it just might be the most important thing you do all year!

If you don't think you have hazardous waste, think again. Right now there are potentially dangerous materials lurking throughout your home. Even everyday products, like solvents and cleaners can pose serious health risks if swallowed, inhaled, or mishandled. The containers for these products often leak or are spilled!

The MDC sponsors this Household HazWaste Collection Program to provide residents of participating towns with a safe, convenient, and environmentally responsible way to dispose of their Household HazWaste. The MDC urges you to participate in any of the 19 Household HazWaste Collections it will hold this year. Protect the health of your kids, your spouse, your pets, and the environment by participating in the MDC's Household HazWaste Collection Program.

If you are interested in volunteering for your town's next host collection day, call the Metropolitan District's Household HazWaste Coordinator at (860) 278-3809.

Sincerely,

The MDC Household HazWaste Staff

THE LISTS OF COMPANIES AND NON-PROFIT GROUPS PROVIDING DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING SERVICES HAVE BEEN PROVIDED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE AND ARE NOT AN ENDORSEMENT FOR ANY PARTICULAR COMPANY OR GROUP.

**Please note this program was designed to help homeowners with common household chemicals and waste generated by small home improvement projects. For projects requiring a contractor, make arrangements for disposal with them or a disposal contractor before work begins. Do not bring the waste to a collection!**



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## Facts About Household HazWaste

**FACT:** Americans generate 1.6 million tons of Household HazWaste per year.

**FACT:** The average household can accumulate as much as 100 pounds of Household HazWaste.

**FACT:** These products can jeopardize your family's health if improperly used or stored.

**FACT:** They can pollute our air, land, and water supplies, if they are thrown in your regular trash collection, on the ground, down your sink or toilet or into a storm drain.

**It is illegal to dump hazardous materials on the ground or down storm sewers. Call the local police or CT DEP ((860) 424-3338) to report violations.**

## 2006 MDC Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule

(Collections are held on Saturdays from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. \*)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
April 22, 2006	Farmington	Farmington High School, 10 Monteith Drive
May 6, 2006	Newington	Town Garage, Fenn Road
May 13, 2006	Enfield	Stanley E. Jablonski Complex, 40 Moody Rd.
May 20, 2006	Hartford	Lewis Fox Middle School Corner of Albany Avenue and Blue Hills Ave.
June 10, 2006	East Windsor	Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broadbrook
June 17, 2006	Windsor	Poquonock WPCF, 1222 Poquonock Ave.
June 24, 2006	Wethersfield	High School, 411 Wolcott Hill Road
Aug. 19, 2006	Simsbury	Henry James Memorial School, 155 Firetown Road
Aug. 26, 2006	Bloomfield	Public Works Building, 21 Southwood Road
Sept. 9, 2006	Hartford	Hartford WPCF, 240 Brainard Road
Sept. 16, 2006	Ansonia	Public Works Complex, North Division Street
Sept. 23, 2006	Ellington	Town Garage, 21 Main Street
Sept. 30, 2006	Middletown	Lawrence School, Mile Lane off Newfield St.
Oct. 7, 2006	West Hartford	Public Works Garage, Oakwood Avenue Extension off New Park Avenue, West Hartford
Oct. 14, 2006	South Windsor	High School, 161 Nevers Road
Oct. 21, 2006	East Hartford	East Hartford WPCF, 65 Pitkin Street
Oct. 28, 2006	Rocky Hill	Rocky Hill WPCF, 80 Goff Brook Lane
Oct. ??, 2006(Sunday)	Bloomfield	To Be Determined
Nov. 4, 2006	Windsor Locks	Public Works Garage, 6 Stanton Road

(WPCF = Water Pollution Control Facility)

\* One collection is held on a Sunday.

### RESIDENTS OF ANY PARTICIPATING TOWN (LISTED BELOW) CAN PARTICIPATE IN ANY MDC SPONSORED COLLECTION DAY

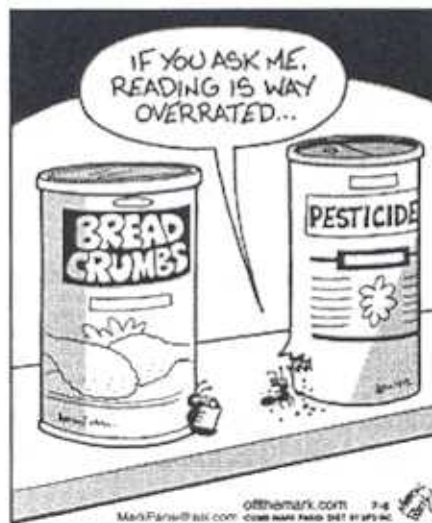
- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| • Ansonia       | • Haddam        |
| • Avon          | • Hartford      |
| • Bloomfield    | • Middlefield   |
| • Canton        | • Middletown    |
| • Cromwell      | • Newington     |
| • Derby         | • Portland      |
| • Durham        | • Rocky Hill    |
| • East Granby   | • Seymour       |
| • East Hampton  | • Simsbury      |
| • East Hartford | • South Windsor |
| • East Windsor  | • West Hartford |
| • Ellington     | • Wethersfield  |
| • Enfield       | • Windsor       |
| • Farmington    | • Windsor Locks |
| • Granby        |                 |

## Identifying Household Hazardous Waste

Many products that we use all the time contain hazardous chemicals that with repeated or excessive contact may lead to lung problems, brain and nerve damage, cancer and even death. A product is considered hazardous if it's:

- **TOXIC** - can injure or kill if swallowed, inhaled or absorbed through the skin
- **FLAMMABLE** - may explode or ignite, even when cool
- **CORROSIVE** - can cause permanent tissue damage through contact
- **REACTIVE** - creates an explosion or produces deadly vapors

You can learn to avoid these chemicals by reading the labels. Those labeled **Danger** or **Poison** are typically the most hazardous. Others may be labeled **Caution** or **Warning** because they are skin or eye irritants. Near these signal words will be a phrase that describes the nature of the hazard, such as "vapors harmful" or "extremely flammable". Refer to page 16 for less hazardous alternatives to many cleaning products and other household chemicals. Common household hazardous wastes, which can be brought to a collection day, are listed on page 3. This list is not all encompassing; there may be other hazardous items or chemicals in your home.



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### What Happens To The Items Brought To The Household HazWaste Collection?

Recycling – Most paints, some solvents, rechargeable batteries, and some mercury may be reprocessed into useful products.

Fuel Blending – Solvents not suitable for recycling, some paints, kerosene, gasoline, and other flammable or combustible liquids will be blended to make fuel for industrial kilns or boilers.

Incineration – Most pesticides, herbicides, aerosol cans, cleaners, waxes, and flammable materials not suitable for recycling or fuel use will be burned in special high temperature incinerators equipped with air pollution monitoring instruments and control devices.

Chemical Treatment – Cyanides may be detoxified, acids and bases neutralized, or toxic metals removed by various chemical procedures.

Fixation/Stabilization – Some liquids will be treated to make their hazardous constituents immobile.

Landfills – Most untreated Household HazWaste is already prohibited from landfills. EPA is now phasing in regulations which will assure that no untreated household hazardous waste will be sent to landfills – only residues from waste treatment.



## Household Hazardous Wastes Accepted

### Garage and Workshop

Alkaline Batteries  
Antifreeze  
Brake Fluid  
Gasoline  
Kerosene  
Mercury Thermostats  
Oil Based Paint  
Paint Strippers/Thinners  
Rechargeable Batteries  
Transmission Fluid

### Kitchen and Bath

Aerosols  
Ammonia  
Ant sprays and baits  
Disinfectants  
Drain Cleaners  
Flea Repellants  
Floor Care Products  
Mercury Thermometers  
Oven Cleaners  
Wood and Metal Polishes

### Yard and Hobby

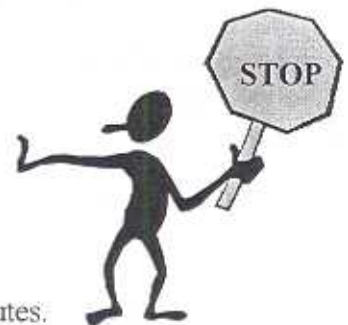
Adhesives  
Artist's Paints  
Charcoal Lighter Fluid  
Cleaning Solvents  
Epoxy Products  
Fungicides  
Glues  
Mercury Switches  
Pool Chemicals  
Wood Preservatives  
Herbicides  
Insecticides  
Mercury  
Moth Balls  
Turpentine

### Other Acceptable Items:

- Asbestos – This includes insulation, shingles, and tiles. Only a small quantity of asbestos can be accepted and the material must be dampened and double bagged. Please call 278-3809 to notify the MDC HazWaste Coordinator that you are bringing asbestos containing material to a collection or to request an asbestos information pamphlet (See page 6). **The Coordinator has the right to reject this material if prior approval was not received.**
- Frying Oil – Oil must be brought in a rigid plastic container (no larger than 5-gallons), labeled, and secure with a screw top lid.
- Fluorescent Bulbs – Place in a container or tape bulbs together to prevent them from breaking during transport.
- PCB Ballasts & Capacitors – Ballasts must be removed from the light fixture. Capacitors must be removed from the appliance.
- Lead Paint Chips – Contact the HazWaste Coordinator at (860) 278-3809 for approval prior to the collection in which you intend to participate. **The Coordinator has the right to reject this material if prior approval was not received.**
- Sand Blasting Grit – Contact the HazWaste Coordinator at (860) 278-3809 for approval prior to the collection in which you intend to participate. **The Coordinator has the right to reject this material if prior approval was not received.**

## Rules For Bringing Waste To A Collection Day

- Bring your waste in their original containers whenever possible.
- Do not mix different products.
- Collect your waste containers in disposable boxes or bins, which should be transported in your trunk. Do not put your Household HazWaste in the backseat with your children or pets.
- STAY IN YOUR VEHICLE! We will handle everything for you.
- NO SMOKING IN YOUR CAR! Most wastes are flammable.
- Bring something to read, the wait is usually 5-15 minutes, but can be up to 30 minutes.
- If possible, leave children and animals at home.



## Batteries

The first step in determining what type of battery you have is simple; read the battery label. The rechargeable and non-alkaline batteries typically specify what type they are on their labels.

Alkaline batteries are used to power many household products like flashlights, stereos, and toys. Most of these batteries are not labeled as alkaline. A good rule of thumb is, if it's not labeled and it looks like a regular battery, it is an alkaline battery.



Button cell batteries found in watches, hearing aids, small clocks, and gadgets are also non-rechargeable. They may be lithium, silver oxide, or zinc air.

Non-rechargeable lithium batteries are not always button cell sized. The lithium batteries used in cameras and other electronics come in several varieties.



There are several different types of rechargeable batteries including Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH), Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd), Lithium-ion (Li-ion), and small sealed lead-acid. Once again, to determine what type of battery you have, read the label. In addition to the standard rechargeable batteries that require a battery charger, these batteries are also found in cordless power tools, cordless phones, laptop computers, camcorders, remote control toys, and portable household appliances. Several types are shown below.

EXAMPLES OF RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES	
Lithium-ion	
Nickel-Cadmium	
Nickel Metal Hydride	
Sealed Lead Acid	

Disposal – Today's standard household batteries - the alkaline AA's, C's, D's, and 9-volts - have been re-engineered so that the components in them are of low toxicity, making them safe to dispose of with your normal trash. Please be aware, if you have old batteries that might have been manufactured prior to 1997, when the phase-out of mercury-based household batteries began, then they likely contain mercury, and should be recycled.

The residents participating in the MDC Household HazWaste program expressed an overwhelming desire to recycle their alkaline batteries. In response the MDC has modified its program and will now accept all batteries used within the home. If you are bringing your batteries to a Household HazWaste Collection please separate them into at least three groups: household (alkaline), button cells, and rechargeable batteries.

If you do not want to hold onto your rechargeable batteries until a collection, the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) has drop-off locations at local retailers. Drop-off locations can be found by visiting [www.rbrc.org](http://www.rbrc.org) or calling 1-800-8-BATTERY. Please contact the drop-off location prior to visiting; the RBRC's list is not always up-to-date.



## Unacceptable Items for MDC Collections

Please note these are **possible** disposal options. The specified organization must be contacted to verify they actually dispose of the listed item prior to bringing your waste to their location. HazWaste should never be dumped at a facility. This is an environmental and safety hazard and is also illegal.

**Ammunition** - Call your local Police Department.

**Asbestos** – See Pages 3 and 6 for additional information. Call the HazWaste Hotline (860) 278-3809 to request an asbestos information pamphlet for homeowners.

**Biological Waste** - Hire a contractor to properly dispose of waste.

**Business Waste** – Most business waste is not accepted. Find a contractor in the yellow pages, under Hazardous Waste Removal. Hazardous waste from small businesses can be accepted under certain conditions. Call the HazWaste Hotline for more information.

**Car Batteries** - See Page 14 for additional information.

**Creosote Coated Railroad Ties** – Railroad ties are not hazardous; contact your local Department of Public Works or Transfer Station for possible disposal options.

**Electronics** – See Page 7 for disposal information.

**Empty Containers of any Kind** - Dispose of in the regular trash. A container is considered empty when no more than one inch or 3% (by weight) of material is left in the container.

**Explosives** – Your local Police Department may accept them.

**Fire Extinguishers** – Your local Fire Department may accept them.

**Flares** – Flares cannot be accepted at the Collection. Your local Police or Fire Department may accept them.

**Ice Melt** – Ice melt is not hazardous and can be disposed of in the regular trash.

**Latex Driveway Sealer (Genite)** – Driveway sealer is not hazardous; solidify then throw in regular trash.

**Latex Paint** – See Page 8 for disposal information.

**Needles/Syringes**- See Page 9 for disposal information.

**Medicine/Drugs** - Place original containers in an opaque, non-recyclable container that seals and dispose of in the trash. Do not flush down the toilet. Unwanted medications collections may be scheduled in the area during 2006.

**Propane Tanks for Gas Grills** - See Page 10 for disposal information.

**Refrigerators** - Call the Public Works Department in your town for disposal instructions.

**Smoke Detectors** - Send smoke detectors back to the manufacturer. See Page 12 for more information.

**Tires** - Call the Public Works Department in your town for disposal instructions.

**Waste Oil & Oil Filters** – See Pages 14 and 15 for disposal information.



## Asbestos

### **What is asbestos?**

Asbestos is a mineral fiber, which was used in a variety of household products and construction materials prior to 1978. Asbestos is extremely hazardous when the fiber becomes airborne; in fact, exposure to asbestos for periods of time have been linked to asbestosis, lung cancer and other deadly diseases. If you suspect that a material in your home contains asbestos, contact the installer or manufacturer or secure the opinion of a knowledgeable contractor – **before you attempt removal**. Asbestos abatement, involving more than three linear feet or three square feet of asbestos-containing material, must be performed by a licensed asbestos abatement contractor. The Connecticut Department of Health recommends homeowners do not handle or perform any asbestos abatement.

### **Where do you commonly find asbestos?**

- Pipe insulation in homes built between 1920 and 1972
- Ceiling and wall insulation in homes built between 1930 and 1950
- Sprayed or troweled ceiling in homes built between 1945 and 1978
- Roof shingles and siding
- Some textured paints and patching compounds sold before 1978
- Stove and furnace insulation

### **Where do I go for assistance if I think I have an asbestos problem?**

The Hartford Yellow Pages (under “Asbestos Removal Service”) has an extensive list of area businesses and contractors who are licensed and insured to safely remove asbestos.

Contact the individuals listed below for additional information.

#### **Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection**

Dave McKeegan, at (860) 424-3313

#### **Connecticut Department of Health**

Asbestos Program, at (860) 509-7367

## Electronics

The electronics industry is constantly growing and supplying us with more hi-tech products. Newer models are becoming available and replacing older models at a rapid rate. As a result, electronics are becoming one of the fastest growing portions of America's trash. Electronics can contain hazardous materials, such as cadmium, lead, and mercury. These hazardous materials can be released into the environment through incinerator ash or landfill leachate.

### What products are considered consumer electronics?

- TVs and Monitors
- Computers
- Computer Peripherals
- Audio Equipment
- VCRs & DVD Players
- Video Cameras
- Telephones
- Cell Phones
- Fax & Copying Machines
- Wireless Devices
- Video Game Consoles

### Reason For Concern

By 2006 more than 163,000 computers and TVs will become obsolete in the US **every day**. Studies estimate that the number of obsolete computers in the US will soon be as high as 315 to 680 million units.

### Help keep electronics out of the trash!

- ♻️ Contact your town to find out if electronics are accepted for recycling.
- ♻️ Contact the electronics manufacturer to see if they have a recycling program.
- ♻️ If you are purchasing a new computer see if the company has a take back program. Many computer retailers will recycle your old computer when you purchase a new one from them. Retailers for other types of electronics may also run recycling programs.
- ♻️ Refurbish, fix, or upgrade your equipment so you can continue to use it.
- ♻️ Donate your old electronics to a local charity or school for reuse or refurbishing.

### Donation or Reuse

Global Harmony Institute – Farmington, CT – 860-674-9023 - [www.globalharmonyinstitute.org](http://www.globalharmonyinstitute.org)

Bridgeport Area Youth Ministry – Bridgeport, CT – [www.baym.org](http://www.baym.org)

Computers for Communities – Burlington, CT – [www.computers4communities.org](http://www.computers4communities.org)

Geeks for Givers – Old Saybrook, CT – [www.geeksforgivers.org](http://www.geeksforgivers.org)

National Cristina Foundation – [www.cristina.org](http://www.cristina.org)

Freecycle – [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org)

Rethink Initiative – <http://pages.ebay.com/rethink>

EZTradein.com – Trade in your old technology for *Paypal*® cash - <http://eztradein.com>

Share the Technology - <http://sharetechnology.org/>



### Electronics Recyclers

Kaplan Computers – Manchester, CT – 860-643-6474

Rick's Recycled Computers – Thomaston, CT – 860-283-4380

Computer Recycling & Refining – North Branford, CT – 888-253-1036

### Electronics Recyclers (By Mail)

Advanced Recycling Technologies - 1-800-WASTE54

Green Disk Recycling Services – 1-800-305-3475 - [www.greendisk.com](http://www.greendisk.com)



## Latex Paint

Latex paint is not designated as a household hazardous waste, so the MDC HazWaste program will not accept it for disposal. Fortunately there is an easy - and safe - way to dispose of your old latex paint. Crack the lid and let the paint dry out. (You can add kitty litter to the paint to speed up the drying process.) Once the paint is dry, throw the cans (with the lids off) in your regular trash, one can at a time. One additional note: When letting the paint dry out, keep the cans away from heat or damp/wet areas, and make sure children and animals can't get into them.

Empty paint cans (oil based or latex) can be put into your regular trash once the residue is dried out. A container is considered empty when less than one inch of material is left in the can.

Avon residents can dispose of their latex and oil-based paint at a drop-off facility located at the Avon Landfill. The drop-off facility is open between April and October. Contact the Avon Landfill at 673-3677 for additional information.

## Important

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has found that about 30% of latex paints produced before 1990 contain mercury. A mercury-containing pesticide was added to these paints as a preservative. To find out if your latex paints have mercury in them, call the EPA National Pesticide Hotline at 1-800-858-7378. Be sure to know the brand names, types of paint and any other relevant information you can get from the containers. If the EPA representative tells you that you have latex paint with mercury, boldly mark the can(s) so HazWaste Collection personnel can dispose of the paint properly.

### **REMEMBER:**

1. Buy only what you need.
2. Use latex paint whenever possible.
3. Bring oil-based paints to any one of the MDC-sponsored Household HazWaste Collections.



## Needles/Syringes/Lancets

In October 2004, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued new recommendations on disposal of used needles, syringes, and lancets, collectively known as Sharps. The EPA does not recommend disposing of Sharps in the regular trash. Sharps disposed of in the trash are a safety hazard to anyone who has access to the trash - your children, pets, trash collectors and disposal facility employees. Used Sharps can injure people, spread germs, and spread diseases such as HIV/AIDS, hepatitis B and C, tetanus, and syphilis. Victims of Sharps-related injuries face the cost of post-injury testing, disease prevention measures, and counseling, even if no infection or disease was spread. Some diseases can take a long time to appear on test results, leading to months of testing and apprehension.

The EPA recommends the following disposal methods:

- Drop-off Collection Sites
- Syringe Exchange Programs
- Mail-back Programs
- Home Needle Destruction Devices



The programs and devices listed below are available in the Greater Hartford area. Contact your local health department or health care provider for more information.

### **Mail-back Programs**

Familymeds.com  
Patient Safety Program  
[www.familymeds.com](http://www.familymeds.com)

Sharps Compliance\*  
[www.sharpsinc.com](http://www.sharpsinc.com)

AllegroMedical.com\*  
[www.allegromedical.com](http://www.allegromedical.com)

\*Disposal included with the purchase of a Sharps container

### **Home Needle Destruction Devices**

These devices are available for purchase at your local pharmacy.

Voyager Diabetic Needle Disposal  
Zims Disintegrator Plus  
B-D Safe-Clip

For more information, contact the **Coalition for Safe Community Needle Disposal** ([www.safeneedledisposal.org](http://www.safeneedledisposal.org)), a collaboration of businesses, community groups, non-profit organizations and government that promotes public awareness and solutions for safe disposal of needles, syringes, and other sharps in the community.



If you cannot find any other options, sharps can be placed in the trash. The sharps must be placed in a hard plastic or metal container with a screw-on or tightly secured lid. Prior to placing in the trash the lid should be reinforced with heavy-duty tape and the container should be marked "Sharps".



## Propane Tanks

Propane tanks can be extremely hazardous and volatile. Improper disposal can cause problems with trash collection vehicles and result in explosions at the waste-to-energy facilities. Unfortunately, getting rid of these tanks has become very difficult. Due to their volatile nature, few propane gas companies will handle residential tanks exclusively for disposal.

If you live in one of the following towns, you can bring it to the respective town location listed (you must live in the specific town listed to bring it to that location). **Call first to ask if the tank must be empty or if the valve must be removed.** If your propane tank is not empty or if you are not sure if it is empty, **DO NOT REMOVE THE VALVE.**

### **Municipal Disposal Locations**

<b>Ansonia -</b>	Public Works Complex, North Division Street, 203-736-5945
<b>Avon -</b>	Landfill, 281 Huckleberry Hill, 860-673-3677 (\$5.00 Fee)
<b>Bloomfield -</b>	Bloomfield/Windsor Landfill, 500 Huckleberry Road in Windsor, 860-285-1833
<b>Canton -</b>	Landfill/Transfer Station, Ramp Road, 860-693-7866 (Valve must be removed)
<b>Cromwell -</b>	Transfer Station on Shunpike Road, 860-632-3420 (Limit two 20 lb. cylinders/day)
<b>East Granby -</b>	Recycling Center - Turkey Hill Road, 860-653-6822 (Valve must be removed)
<b>East Hartford -</b>	Landfill, 61 Ecology Drive, 860-291-7363 or 860-291-7355
<b>Ellington -</b>	Town Garage, 21 Main Street, 860-870-3140
<b>Granby -</b>	Transfer Station on Old Stagecoach Road only, 860-653-8960 (\$5.00 for each 20 lb. tank)
<b>Newington -</b>	Landfill on Main Street, 860-665-8588
<b>Portland -</b>	Landfill/Transfer Station on Sand Hill Road, 860-342-6733 (\$8.00 fee)
<b>Rocky Hill -</b>	Town Garage at 2 Old Forge Road, 860-258-7709
<b>Simsbury - fee)</b>	Bulky Waste Recycling Center on Wolcott Road, 860-658-3271 or 860-658-3222 (\$5.00
<b>West Hartford -</b>	Collected at the curb <b>ONLY</b> during scrap metal collection, 860-236-4236 Call in advance for permit \$20.00 fee (Valve must be removed)
<b>Windsor -</b>	Bloomfield/Windsor Landfill, 500 Huckleberry Road in Windsor, 860-285-1833

Note: For towns not listed above, see Other Disposal Locations on page 11. Small 1-lb propane tanks, can be brought to a Household HazWaste collection if the local disposal location does not accept them.



## Other Disposal Locations

You may be able to dispose of the tank at one of the locations listed below or return the propane tank to the place you bought it. Many companies and local hardware stores will dispose of an old tank for you if a new propane tank is purchased. If the locations below are inconvenient for you, check your yellow pages (under "Gas - Liquefied Propane") for other options. Always call before you bring your propane tank anywhere for disposal. The disposal fees may change depending on the tank size. This list has been provided for your convenience and is not an endorsement for any particular company.

### Derby

Suburban Propane  
100 Water Street  
(203) 734-2503  
(\$10.00 service fee)

### Enfield

Hawthornes  
97 North Maple Street  
(860) 749-8189  
(\$5.00 service fee)

### Farmington

Troys Citgo  
1097 Farmington Ave  
(860) 677-2740  
(\$5.00 service fee)

### Glastonbury

Bemer Petroleum Corp.  
210 Commerce Street  
(860) 659-3515  
(\$5.00 service fee)

### South Windsor

PropaneGas Service, Inc.  
420 John Fitch Boulevard  
Route 5  
(860) 289-0267  
(\$5.00 service fee)

### Stafford Springs

High Grade Gas Service  
19 Middle River Drive  
(860) 749-8035  
(\$5.00 service fee)

### Trumbull

The Rural Gas Co.  
7176 Main Street  
(203) 261-3641  
(\$5.00 service fee)

### Unionville

Parson's Paint & Hardware  
92 South Main St.  
(860) 673-2424  
(\$4.00 service fee)

### Unionville

Unionville Oil & Propane  
17 Depot Place  
(860) 675-5001  
(\$5.00 service fee)

### West Hartford

Lou's Auto Service  
1056 New Britain Ave.  
(860) 236-2593  
(\$5.00 service fee)

### Wethersfield

Cross Automotive  
708 Silas Deane Hwy.  
(860) 529-5743  
(\$5.00 service fee)

### Wethersfield

Wethersfield Rental  
474 Silas Deane Hwy.  
(860) 563-0448  
(\$3.00 service fee)

### Windsor

Suburban Propane  
90 Macktown Road  
(860) 298-7950  
(\$15.00 service fee)





## **Smoke Detectors**

There are two types of smoke detectors, ionization and photoelectric. Ionization smoke detectors contain a small amount of a radioactive substance, usually Americium 241. The ionization smoke detectors are required to be labeled to notify the consumer that the device contains a radioactive material. Also you can find out by checking the owner's manual or by calling the manufacturer.



### **How do I properly dispose of an old ionization smoke detector?**

- Ionization smoke detectors contain a radioactive material but the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has exempted all end users (includes homeowners) from the regulatory requirements for handling, storage and disposal of radioactive materials.
- They consider the ionization detectors a very low level radioactive waste and acceptable to throw in the trash.
- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recommends that people return the ionization smoke detectors to the manufacturer instead of throwing them in the trash.
- Since the manufacturers are not the end users, these companies are subject to regulatory requirements and must dispose of the detectors as radioactive waste.

### **Which companies will accept returns of ionization smoke detectors?**

Several companies that manufacture smoke detectors will accept old detectors (their brands only) from consumers. A list of some manufacturers and their contact information is provided below. If the manufacturer of your smoke detector is not included, check the box the detector came in or the company's website for a Customer Service phone number.

It is costly for the manufacturer to dispose of the detectors since they have to be shipped in a sealed drum to a special disposal site that accepts radioactive waste. So they are quick to tell customers that call that it is okay to throw them out. Often the customer must insist that they do not want to just throw them in the trash and then the company's customer service representative will tell them their return policy.

Unless instructed otherwise by the company, you should place the smoke detector in a sealed plastic bag and pack it in a sturdy cardboard box with sufficient shock absorbing material to protect from damage during transit. Include a note instructing the company that you are sending them a smoke detector to properly dispose of.

Company Address & Phone	Instructions
<b>American Sensors</b> Attn: Disposal 100 Tempo Avenue Unit 15 East Toronto, Ontario CA M2H3S5 1-800-387-4219 (416)-493-3457	Also accepts <b>Dicon, Garrison, North American Detectors, Inc., and TenTek</b> . Send by regular mail or UPS Ground.  Write on the customs form that the package contains a defective smoke detector and the value is \$0.
<b>Code One/Firex/Maple Chase</b> Attn: Disposal 2820 Thatcher Road Downers Grove, IL 60515 (630)-710-5500	Send by regular mail or UPS Ground.
<b>First Alert</b> Attn: Waste Disposal 3920 Enterprise Court Aurora, IL 60504 1-800-323-9005	Also accepts <b>FamilyGuard</b> and <b>BRK</b> brands. Send by regular mail or UPS Ground.  May charge a handling fee. Call customer service before mailing your smoke detector.
<b>GE</b>	Black and Decker purchased GE's housewares division and smoke detectors are in this category. Return the ionization detector to any Black and Decker Factory Service Center. Service Centers are listed in the yellow pages under "Electric Small Appliance Repair" and can be found at <a href="http://www.blackanddecker.com/CustomerService">www.blackanddecker.com/CustomerService</a>
<b>Walter Kidde</b> Kidde Safety & Customer Serv. 1394 South Third St. Mebane, North Carolina 27302 1-800-880-6788	May also accepts Lifesaver and KIDDE Fyrnetics. Include a note telling the company that you want them to dispose of the enclosed detector.
<b>Life Saver/Frynetics</b> Attn: Disposal 1055 Stevenson Court Suite 102W Roselle, IL 60172	Send by regular mail or UPS Ground.
<b>Pyr-a-larm</b> Siemens Cerberus Division 8 Fernwood Rd. Florham Park, NJ 07932 1-800-222-0108	Also accepts <b>Guard Ion</b> . Contact the company for mailing instructions.
<b>Safety's Sake/Funtech</b> Attn: Disposal 388 N. Elliot Creek Road Amherst, NJ 14228 1-800-877-1250	Contact the company for mailing instructions.



## Waste Oil & Car Batteries

Car batteries and waste oil are very common household hazardous wastes. As a result, each town in Connecticut is required to provide a drop-off location for their safe disposal. The following list is provided to encourage you to use your local drop-off locations. These items are not accepted at MDC Household HazWaste Collections because the program is geared toward household items that your towns or local gas stations cannot accept. Please call the numbers listed below for further information regarding the drop-off locations listed below.

**Waste oil and car batteries are accepted (from respective town residents) at the following locations:**

<b>Ansonia -</b>	Public Works Complex, North Division Street - 736-5945
<b>Avon -</b>	Landfill, 281 Huckleberry Hill (\$10 fee for car batteries; \$2 for antifreeze) - 673-3677
<b>Bloomfield -</b>	Bloomfield/Windsor Landfill, 500 Huckleberry Road in Windsor - 285-1833
<b>Canton -</b>	Landfill/Transfer Station, Ramp Road - 693-7866
<b>Cromwell -</b>	Transfer Station on Shunpike Road - 632-3420 (Antifreeze also accepted);
<b>Derby -</b>	Public Works Complex, Coonhollow Road - 736-1468 (Antifreeze also accepted)
<b>Durham/Middlefield -</b>	Transfer Station on Cherry Hill Road - 349-8253 (Antifreeze also accepted)
<b>East Granby -</b>	Recycling Center on Turkey Hill Road - 653-6822 (Car batteries are not accepted)
<b>East Hampton -</b>	Transfer Station, Bear Swamp Road - 267-4747
<b>East Hartford -</b>	Landfill, 61 Ecology Drive - 291-7363 (Antifreeze also accepted);
<b>East Windsor -</b>	Collected at curb for recycling - 623-8122
<b>Ellington -</b>	Town Garage, 21 Main Street - 870-3140 (Antifreeze also accepted)
<b>Enfield -</b>	Town Garage, 40 Moody Road - 763-7524. Usually accepted 3rd Saturday of each month
<b>Farmington -</b>	Highway Garage, 544 New Britain Avenue - 675-2550 - Motor oil must be in a disposable container, no larger than 2 gallons. Monday-Friday from 6:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
<b>Granby -</b>	Town Garage, 52 North Granby Road - 653-8960 (Antifreeze also accepted); Transfer Station on Old Stagecoach Road - 653-8960
<b>Haddam -</b>	Transfer Station on Route 154 - 345-2110 (Antifreeze accepted but not car batteries);
<b>Hartford -</b>	DPW Yard, 40 Jennings Road - 543-8609
<b>Middletown -</b>	Recycling Center, Corner of Johnson and N. Main St. - 344-3526 (Antifreeze also accepted);
<b>Newington -</b>	Waste oil and car batteries at the Town Highway Garage on Milk Lane - 665-8588; Waste oil only at the Landfill on Main Street (No oil filters) - 667-5810
<b>Portland -</b>	Landfill/Transfer Station on Sand Hill Road - 342-6733 (Antifreeze also accepted);
<b>Rocky Hill -</b>	Waste oil accepted at Town Highway Garage, 2 Old Forge Road - 258-7709 (Antifreeze & turkey fryer oil also accepted). Take car batteries to Douglas Battery, 51 Belamose Avenue - 529-2181
<b>Seymour -</b>	Transfer Station, Silvermine Road - 888-0168 (Antifreeze also accepted)
<b>Simsbury -</b>	Paines Inc. Recycling Center on 74 Wolcott Road - 658-9481
<b>South Windsor -</b>	Waste oil and car batteries are recycled at the curb weekly - Oil must be in a clear plastic container that is covered and tape sealed to prevent leakage. - 644-2511 ext. 243 (Antifreeze accepted at Public Works Garage on Burgess Road)
<b>West Hartford -</b>	Recycling Center, Brixton Street - 236-4236. (Antifreeze also accepted).
<b>Wethersfield -</b>	Transfer Station on 100 Marsh Street - (860) 721-2846 (Antifreeze also accepted)
<b>Windsor -</b>	Bloomfield/Windsor Landfill, 500 Huckleberry Road - 285-1833
<b>Windsor Locks -</b>	Dept. of Public Works, 6 Stanton Road. (Mon - Fri: 7am-3:30pm, Sat: 8am-12pm) - 627-1405

Car batteries can also be taken to any ACDelco or Advanced Auto Parts store for recycling. Look in the yellow pages under "Automobile Parts & Supplies - New" or visit ACDelco's and Advanced Auto Parts' websites to locate the store nearest you and other stores that also recycle car batteries.

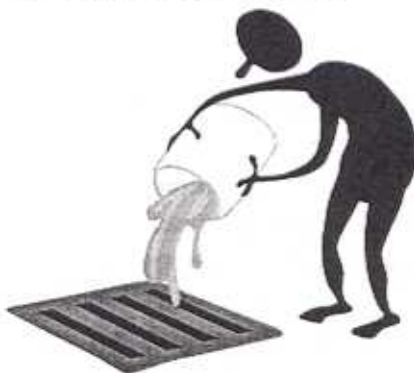
## Oil Filters



### **How to drain your used oil filter (once it has been removed):**

1. Drain the filter of any oil. Using a sharp tool, puncture a hole in the dome end of the filter or through the antidrain back valve located on the flat end of the filter. Allow the used oil to flow into a container appropriate for recycling oil.
2. Place the flat end of the punctured filter on the used oil collection container and drain as much used oil as possible out of the filter. It is important for used filters to be drained between 12 and 24 hours near engine operating temperature and above room temperature (approximately 60° F).

The CT Department of Environmental Protection recommends recycling used oil filters as scrap metal. Recycling all the filters sold annually in the United States would result in the recovery of about 160,000 tons of steel, or enough steel to make 16 new stadiums the size of Atlanta's Olympic Stadium. Please contact the drop-off location for your town, listed above, to determine if your town recycles used oil filters.



If you see illegal dumping of waste oil, call the local police dispatch or the CT DEP at (860) 424-3338.

- One gallon of used oil can pollute 1 million gallons of fresh water (a year's supply for 50 people).
- Used oil can foul sewage treatment processes.
- A cup of oil can spread a very thin sheen over more than an acre of calm water.
- An oil sheen can block sunlight, impair photosynthesis and prevent the replenishment of dissolved oxygen, which leads to fish kills.



## Non-Toxic Alternatives for Household Chemicals



Take a look around your home. If you're like most people, you buy products that you believe will help you keep your home cleaner, healthier and more attractive. But if you take a closer look, you'll find out that many of these products are actually powerful chemicals that pose health risks to you and to the environment.

Common household products like pesticides, cleaners, aerosols, polishers, batteries and paints can contain chemicals that can cause short and long-term health problems, or are suspected carcinogens. Their effects on the environment can last long after we're finished with them. Here are some tips on how to start getting the toxins out of your home.

1. Use this list to create your own non-toxic alternatives to your regular household cleaners. Pick one or two to start with and gradually decrease the amount of chemicals you buy. You'll save a lot of money too!
2. Look for safer non-toxic alternatives at your grocery or health food store. Examples include citronella insect repellents and flea collars, non-chlorine bleach, cedar blocks, enzyme-based drain de-cloggers and non-toxic laundry detergents, household cleaners and stain removers.
3. If you must buy household chemicals, use them carefully. Always read and follow the instructions carefully, use the product up if possible, or dispose of the rest at an MDC sponsored Household HazWaste collection day.

### AROUND THE HOUSE

**All Purpose Cleaner** – Pour 3 Tablespoons vinegar, 1 teaspoon borax and 2 cups hot water into a spray bottle. Shake until dissolved. Then add 1 teaspoon liquid soap (or dishwashing liquid) to the bottle and shake it again. Spray on surface and then wipe clean. For tough dirt, leave cleaner on for a few minutes and then wipe off.



**Drains** – Pour  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of baking soda followed by a cup of vinegar down the drain. Let it sit for about 20 minutes and then rinse it down with boiling water. To clear a badly clogged drain, use a plunger or a metal snake.

**Furniture** – Mix 2 tsp olive oil,  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup white vinegar, and 20 drops of lemon essential oil in a 16 oz. spray bottle. Fill the rest of the bottle with water and shake well. Spray onto furniture and wipe dry immediately with a soft cloth. To remove fingerprints, quickly rub a slice of potato over the surface. To remove scratches, rub nutmeat over the scratched area. Choose either pecans or walnuts to match the wood.



**Metal Cleaner (for brass, copper or pewter)** - Make a paste of salt, vinegar, and flour. Start with  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of salt and add enough vinegar to dissolve it. Then add enough flour to make it a fairly dry paste.



**Oven** – Sprinkle the bottom of the oven with baking soda and spray with water periodically to keep it damp. Let it set overnight. Scoop out baking soda and rinse well. To prevent grease build-up, always clean spills as soon as the oven cools down.

**Pans** – For burnt pans, remove as much of the substance as possible and then fill the pan with cold water. Add a generous amount of salt and a slice of onion. Set overnight, or for 12 hours. Then bring to a boil for five minutes, cool, and clean.

**Toilet Bowl Cleaner** – Squirt vinegar from squeeze bottle under the rim. Pour about  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup borax into the toilet and use a toilet brush to clean the bowl. For mineral deposits, leave mixture in toilet for at least an hour. Then use the brush again to clean. Use the all-purpose cleaner and a sponge or scrub cloth to clean the seat and outside of the bowl.



**Tub and Tile** – Sprinkle on baking soda, scour with a wet sponge and rinse. For mineral deposits, soak a washcloth in vinegar and leave it on the deposit overnight. For soap scum deposits, spread liquid castile soap or clarifying shampoo on the surface and leave it for an hour or so. The deposits will be softened and then can be easily scrubbed away with a brush. For mold or mildew, make a paste of borax and water and put it on the surface to be cleaned. Leave paste on the area for about an hour and then scrub it off.



**Windows** – Pour  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup vinegar in approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  gallon of warm water in a bucket. Mix in  $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp. liquid soap and a pinch of cornstarch. Wipe down windows with this mixture and dry with a lint-free cloth. Use spray bottle with club soda (not seltzer) for touch-ups.

## HOME INSECT CONTROL

**Cockroaches and Ants** - Mix chopped bay leaves and cucumber skins together and put in dry areas where ants or cockroaches are found.

**Fleas** - Nutritional yeast added to the diet of a dog or cat has been found to be helpful in preventing fleas. Vacuum floors and furniture thoroughly, since fleas spend much of their time off the animal. Remember, chemicals you place on your pet may end up on your hand! Look for herbal flea collars.

**Flies** - Mint plants set in windowsills help to repel flies.

**Mealy Bugs or Scales on House Plants** - Apply alcohol or oil directly to the colonies with a small paintbrush.

**Moths** - Make pomades by sticking cloves into the surface of an apple or an orange until it is completely covered. Cover apple or orange with a white tissue and let it dry for two weeks in a dry, airy place then unwrap it and hang it in your closet. Cedar wood chips and chests also repel moths.

**Other House Plant Pests** - Wash leaves with soapy water (1 lb. non-detergent soap to five gallons of water), then rinse.



When preparing a recipe for a non-hazardous alternative, please remember the following:

1. DO NOT mix anything with a commercial cleaning agent.
2. If you do store a homemade mixture, make sure it is properly labeled and do not store it in a container that could be mistaken for food or beverage.
3. When preparing alternatives, mix only what is needed for the job at hand and mix them in clean, reusable containers. This avoids waste and the need to store any cleaning mixture.

### **Examples of Companies Selling Non-Toxic Alternatives**

The Clean Environment Company – [www.cleanenvironmentco.com](http://www.cleanenvironmentco.com)

Earth Friendly Products – [www.ecos.com](http://www.ecos.com)

Ecover Products

GAIAM – [www.gaiam.com](http://www.gaiam.com)

Lifetree Products – [www.lifetreeproducts.com](http://www.lifetreeproducts.com)

Seventh Generation Brand Products – Garden of Light (Avon and Glastonbury) and Wild Oats (West Hartford)

Sun & Earth Products – Big Y, Price Choppers, Shaw's, Stop & Shop, and Whole Foods Market (West Hartford)

### **Additional Information**

For more information about non-hazardous alternatives please use the following references.

#### **Websites**

CT DEP's Household Alternatives Page - [www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/p2/individual/house.htm](http://www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/p2/individual/house.htm)

Melaleuca (Wellness Center & Product Store) - [www.melaleuca.com](http://www.melaleuca.com)

Eco-wise (Hemp & Organic Cotton Products) - [www.ecowise.com/index.shtml](http://www.ecowise.com/index.shtml)

Recycle Hawai'i (Non-toxic Household Products) - [www.recyclehawaii.org/alt.htm](http://www.recyclehawaii.org/alt.htm)

#### **Books**

Clean House, Clean Planet by Karen Logan

Home Safe Home by Debra Lynn Dadd

Better Basics for the Home by Annie Berthhold-Bond.

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